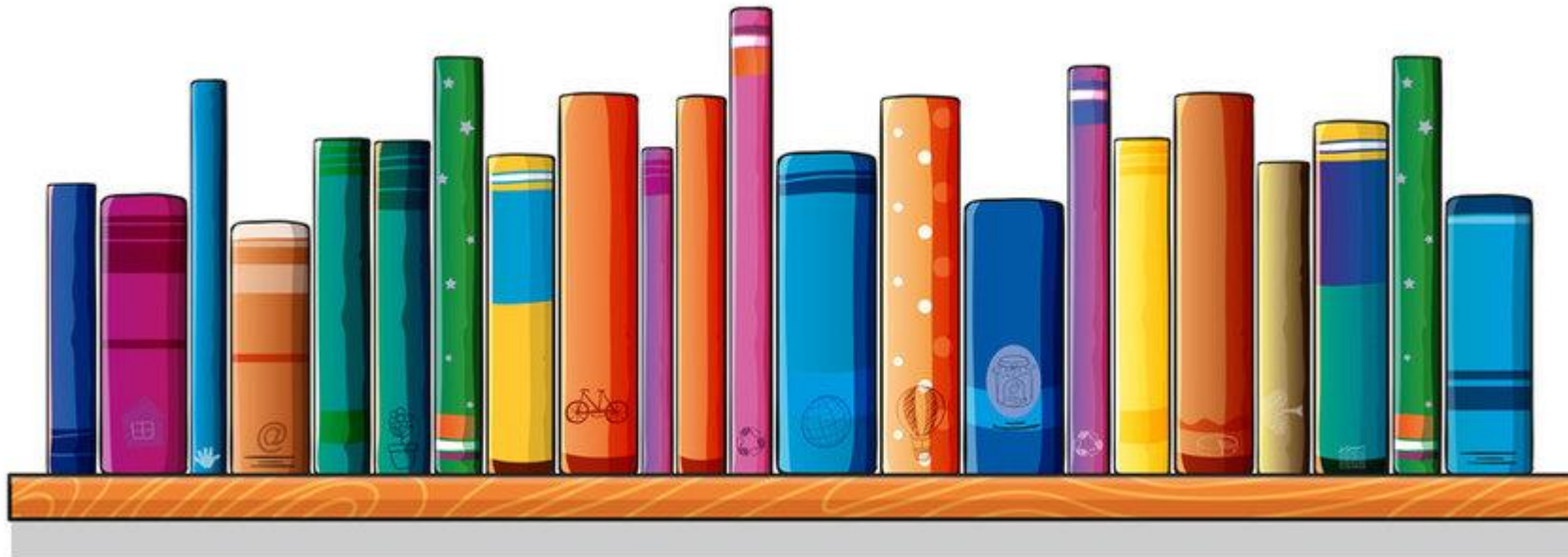


Accelerator Reader

Year 3



Contents

- Star Test, ZPD level and reading age
- Reading books and quizzes
- Moving up levels
- How to help at home
- Reading Comprehension Year 3
- Any questions

Star Tests

- Fluency and decoding words is still important.
- Move to comprehension and understanding the text (what is this story/non-fiction book about). This is throughout KS2.
- Comprehension skills are taught continuously at school, but these skills should be evident in children's reading.
- Children complete half-termly star tests to check progress and correct reading level.
- Star tests are completed independently in test style conditions to gain accurate results.
- A practise is at the start of the star test; this needs to be completed accurately to continue with test.

ZPD Level and Reading Age

- Each star test checks comprehension. Children answer a range of questions based on texts of varying length and given multiple choice options.
- At end of test, teachers see a ZPD level. This tells teachers what reading range children should be selecting books from. E.g. if a child has a ZPD of 0.9-1.9, the children can choose any books within this range.
- Star test results also provide reading age of child based on comprehension not fluency.

Reading books and quizzes

- When a child has read their book, at home or in school with an adult, they will have the opportunity to take a quiz before changing their book.
- Quiz should be completed independently.
- Quiz asks questions about the book and assesses children's understanding of book.
- Children can use the book to answer questions.

How often to take quizzes.

- The number of quizzes children do depends on the length of the book.
- We would like to see the majority of children quiz at least twice a week.
- Children are more than welcome to quiz daily.
- Children reading longer books e.g. chapter books should be ready to quiz after 4 days. This obviously depends on length of book, but longer between quizzes means retaining understanding can be tricky.
- 80% and above shows good understanding of book.

Question 1 of 10

When the Zuckermans discovered Wilbur's escape, the goose ---.

- ☐ A told him how to get back into his pen
- ☐ B bit Lurvy's leg so he couldn't catch Wilbur
- ☐ C suggested that he hide in the corn bin
- ☐ D advised him to run to the woods

This is what questions from the book that your child reads would look like. Depending on the level of book there are a minimum of 3 questions and a maximum of 10 questions.

The children have multiple choice options and should use the book to help them find the answers.

How to help at home

- When listening to children read at home, ask plenty of questions.
- E.g. What is happening on this page/chapter?
- What was the story about?
- What happened at the start?
- What happened at the end?
- How was this character feeling?
- What is _____?
- We will provide some question starters to use at home.

Comprehensions Year 3

We use Reading VIPERS

V – Vocabulary

I – Inference

P – Prediction

E – Explanation

R – Retrieval

S – Sequence or Summarise

In Year 3, we complete these in class as part of whole class reading comprehensions on a Thursday and Friday.

Unit focus: Stone Age
Text focus: Information Text

STAGE 3

The Stone Age

The different periods of prehistoric human history were named after the main material they used for tools and weapons. The Stone Age was one of the longest periods of this time. Scientists think that it began before 300,000BCE and continued until 3,000BCE. Items from this time are very hard to find, so these are just educated guesses.


The name Stone Age means that most of the tools and weapons humans used were made of stone. They didn't use metal much at all. It seems that they used small amounts of gold and copper to make ornaments and jewellery but not a lot else. Humans had started to use copper to make bronze by the end of the Stone Age. This is why the next period is called the Bronze Age.

Scientists have found evidence of early humans from nearly 4 million years ago. They don't know what they were using for tools that far back. That's why we say the Stone Age began before 300,000BCE. Humans had spread across the globe by the time they started using bronze. This means that the Bronze Age would have started at different times in different places.

There were three different periods of the Stone Age. The first section was called the Palaeolithic period. Palaeolithic means Old Stone Age. This lasted until about 10,000BCE. The next era was called the Mesolithic period. That means Middle Stone Age. This lasted until about 8,000BCE. The final period was called the Neolithic age. This means New Stone Age. It lasted until roughly 3,000BCE.

People living in the Palaeolithic period hunted for their food. They moved around and didn't have permanent houses. This is called being nomadic. Lots of the items from this time have been found in caves. They lived at the same time as woolly mammoths and sabre-toothed tigers. There were several ice ages during this time. The people who survived had to live through extreme conditions.


The Mesolithic period was much warmer. Britain was separated from Europe by the rising sea. These people were still nomadic, but



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they did have certain areas that they returned to. This might have been for religious reasons or celebrations. Humans started to make more advanced tools at this time by attaching rocks to sticks. It was in this period that the first evidence of houses has been found.

Stonehenge and Skara Brae were built during the Neolithic period. There is evidence that this was when humans started to build permanent villages and towns. They also began to farm animals and crops. Some of the first animals they farmed were cattle, sheep and pigs. This is the first time that humans seem to have deliberately planted crops to be harvested.



RETRIEVAL FOCUS

1. Which metals did Stone Age people use to make jewellery?
2. Which period began in roughly 10,000BCE?
3. How old is the earliest evidence of humans?
4. True or false: Nomadic people stayed in one place.
5. In which period did humans start to build houses?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

I	How do we know that Palaeolithic people used caves as shelter?
V	Which words tell you that people did something on purpose?
S	Why was the period called the Stone Age?
S	Why do scientists say the Stone Age began before 300,000BCE?
P	Why was it easier to stay in a permanent place once people started to farm animals?

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Any questions

- Please feel free to ask any questions.